

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-16. (canceled).

17. (currently amended): A feed screw device comprising:

a screw shaft;

a nut member threadably engaging an outer periphery of the screw shaft;

FI a lubricant supply device having an insertion hole formed in an outer periphery side thereof, said lubricant supply device coming in contact with the outer peripheral surface of said screw shaft, such that a portion of said lubricant supply device which contacts the outer peripheral surface of the screw shaft comprises a material including a lubricant;

a retaining ring for retaining said lubricant supply device, said retaining ring extends radially beyond the lubricant supply device; and

a projection formed on said retaining ring and disposed so as to be received in the insertion hole, such that said projection extends circumferentially less than all of the way around said screw shaft, wherein the retaining ring is fastened to an outside circumferential end face of the nut member.

105 ✓ 18. (previously presented): The feed screw device according to claim 17, in which said nut member is provided with a recess portion, wherein said retaining ring retains said lubricant supply device within said recess portion.

19. (previously presented): The feed screw device according to claim 17, in which said lubricant supply device has a cut part at a place in the circumferential direction.

cont. ✓ 20. (previously presented): The feed screw device according to claim 17, in which said lubricant supply device comprises a plurality of lip parts projecting toward said screw shaft and which come in sliding contact with the outer peripheral surface of said screw shaft.

✓ 21. (previously presented): The feed screw device according to claim 17, wherein said retaining ring is fixedly secured to said nut member, and said projection formed on said retaining ring prevents said lubricant supply device from rotating with said screw shaft.

✓ 22. (previously presented): The feed screw device according to claim 17, wherein a spiral projection is formed on an inner peripheral surface of said lubricant supply device, said spiral projection fitting into a thread groove of the screw shaft.

✓ 23. (previously presented): The feed screw device according to claim 17, in which the portion of said lubricant supply device which contacts the outer peripheral surface of the screw shaft comprises a rubber material including the lubricant or a synthetic resin material including the lubricant.

24. (canceled).

25. (previously presented): The feed screw device according to claim 19, wherein said cut part extends radially from an innermost circumferential surface of said lubricant supply device to an outermost circumferential surface of said lubricant supply device.

✓ 26. (new): The feed screw device according to claim 17, wherein the retaining ring is disk-shaped.

✓ 27. (new): The feed screw device according to claim 17, wherein the projection is a tab formed from an outwardly bent portion of the retaining ring.
